

MAJOR-GENERAL
J. E. B. STUART
★★★★
THEODORE S. GARNETT

Very Scarce

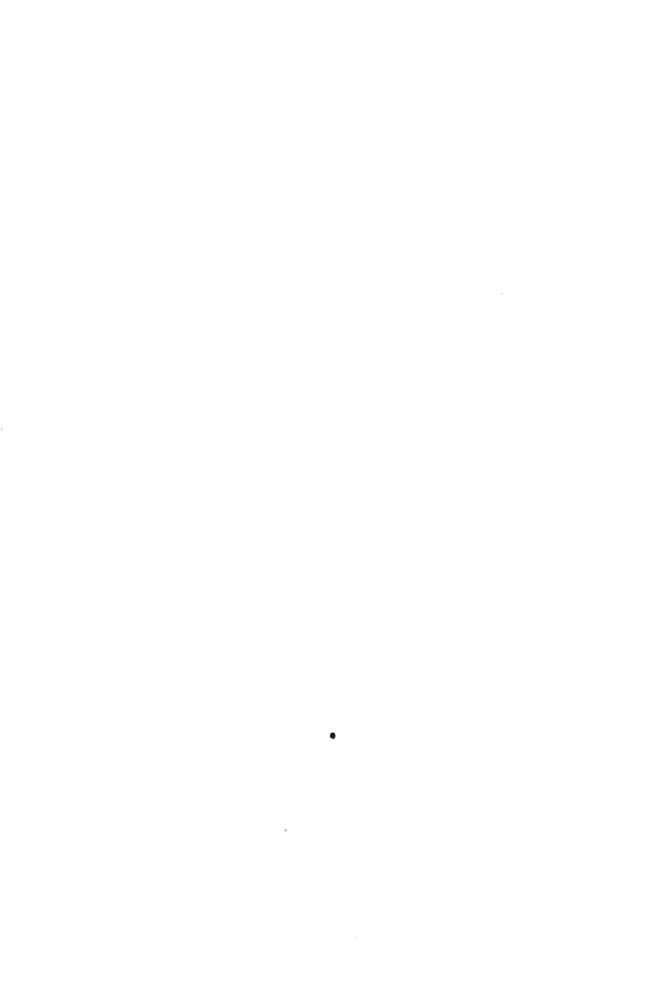
2/27/20
QB 50
24

UNIVERSITY
OF PITTSBURGH



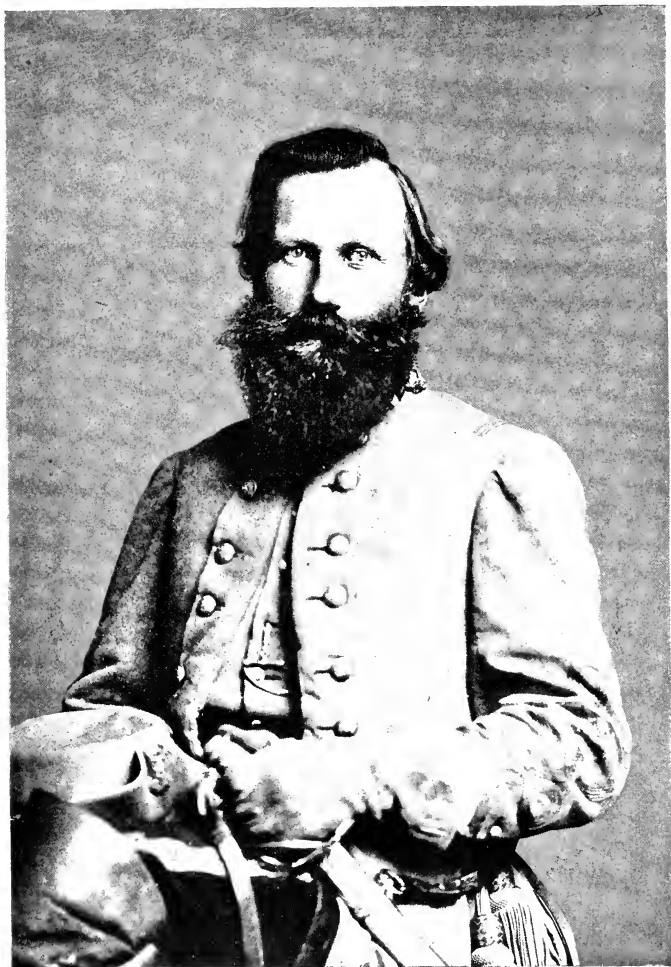
Dar. Rm.
E467.1
S9G2

LIBRARIES



MAJOR-GENERAL J. E. B. STUART





J. E. Stuart

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

TELEPHONE (202) 725-2000

TELETYPE (202) 725-2000

FACSIMILE (202) 725-2000

INTERNET (202) 725-2000

WWW.AGRICULTURE.GOV

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

TELEPHONE (202) 725-2000

TELETYPE (202) 725-2000

FACSIMILE (202) 725-2000

INTERNET (202) 725-2000

WWW.AGRICULTURE.GOV

MAJOR GENERAL J. E. B. STUART

*This photograph is from the original negative taken
of the General in 1862, the only negative
from life that is extant.*

J. E. B. STUART

(MAJOR-GENERAL)

*Commander of the Cavalry Corps, Army
of Northern Virginia, C. S. A.*

AN ADDRESS

*Delivered at the Unveiling of the Equestrian Statue
of General Stuart, at Richmond, Virginia,
May 30, 1907*

BY

THEODORE S. GARNETT

HIS AIDE-DE-CAMP

NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON
THE NEALE PUBLISHING COMPANY

1907

COPYRIGHT, 1907, BY
THE NEALE PUBLISHING COMPANY

First published in December, 1907

TO
THE VETERAN CAVALRY ASSOCIATION
OF THE
ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

INTRODUCTION

ON the 30th day of May, 1907, the equestrian statue of Major-General J. E. B. Stuart was unveiled in the city of Richmond, Virginia.

The Veteran Cavalry Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, to whose efforts the erection of this monument is due, and under whose auspices the impressive ceremonies were held, was organized in the year 1891. The main purpose of the Association is now happily accomplished. The city of Richmond, in fulfilment of its pledge given immediately after the death of General Stuart, generously aided the Association by a large contribution of money and donated the site for the statue on Monument Avenue.

The artist and sculptor, Mr. Fred Moynihan, designed and executed the

work and well deserves praise for this striking example of his great art.

The occasion was most appropriate, being the first day of the Seventeenth Annual Reunion of the United Confederate Veteran Association, bringing together an immense concourse of people and large numbers of the veteran survivors of the armies of the South. It was a notable gathering, graced by the presence of many distinguished persons, among them Mrs. General J. E. B. Stuart and Mrs. General Stonewall Jackson.

The granddaughter of General Stuart, little Miss Virginia Stuart Waller, unveiled the statue.

Major Andrew R. Venable presided; Rev. Walter Q. Hullihen offered the prayer, and Judge Theodore S. Garnett delivered the address. All of these officers were members of General Stuart's staff in 1864, the last named being chosen by the Veteran Cavalry Association to make the address. The speaker was

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

Stuart's aide-de-camp, having been promoted by him from the ranks, in which he had served as a courier to the General. He was with him in the battle of Yellow Tavern, May 11, 1864, and assisted in bringing him, mortally wounded, from the battlefield to Richmond, where, on the day following, the General died.

The official records and reports of the campaigns of the Army of Northern Virginia mention the name of General J. E. B. Stuart as prominent in every great battle and in the numberless engagements between the opposing cavalry corps. "The Campaigns of Stuart's Cavalry," written by his Adjutant-General, the late Major H. B. McClellan, is a valuable military work as well as memoir of the General. It is out of print and not easily accessible to the present generation. No adequate life of General Stuart has yet been produced, but the address delivered by Judge Garnett, which is now published by his authority, may be taken as a cor-

rect outline of his career and a faithful tribute to the great commander of Lee's cavalry.

It may yet form the basis and prove the inspiration for a more elaborate work which, it is hoped, the author may soon undertake.

THE PUBLISHERS.

THE VETERAN CAVALRY ASSOCIATION OF THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

From the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* of May 30, 1907, the following condensed account of the organization of this Association is made:

To the untiring efforts of a body of men known as the Veteran Cavalry Association of the Army of Northern Virginia is due the noble equestrian figure which graces the intersection of Franklin and Lombardy Streets, and which is sacred to the memory of General J. E. B. Stuart, the dashing cavalry leader of the Army of Northern Virginia.

On October 3, 1891, the Association was organized. Its purpose at that time was simply to mark the grave of General Stuart with a suitable monument, but it was finally determined that the Association, with the aid of the city of Richmond, would erect this equestrian statue.

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

The Association was formed with the following officers: General Fitzhugh Lee, president; Captain Charles A. Taylor, secretary, and Mr. E. A. Catlin, treasurer. Upon the death of Captain C. A. Taylor, Lieutenant W. Ben Palmer became the secretary of the Association, and to his faithful and efficient service is due much of the success of the undertaking.

The following officers were vice-presidents: Generals Wade Hampton, L. L. Lomax, M. C. Butler, William H. Payne, William P. Roberts, Thomas T. Munford, and Major H. B. McClellan.

The following executive committee served with faithfulness and devotion: Thomas W. Sydnor, John Lamb, A. R. Venable, M. J. Dimmock, E. C. Minor, James R. Werth, Jos. W. Thomas, Charles Selden, L. B. Vaughan, Joseph Bryan, Theodore S. Garnett, John W. Gordon, Frank T. Sutton, P. H. Mayo, Charles T. O'Ferrall, and James Vass.

At a meeting held in Mechanics' Institution the 10th of May, 1904, from cer-

tain models on exhibition there the design submitted by Mr. Fred Moynihan was accepted, subject to some changes suggested by the Committee on Statue, which committee was composed of General Fitzhugh Lee, Major A. R. Venable, Judge Theodore S. Garnett, and Captain M. J. Dimmock. The work of casting the bronze from this model was assigned to the Gorham Manufacturing Company of Providence, R. I., and was most successfully done.

The base of the monument was designed and erected by Captain M. J. Dimmock, of Richmond, Virginia.

On April 28, 1905, the Association suffered severe loss in the death of its President, General Fitzhugh Lee, to whom no successor has yet been elected, but it is proposed to continue the organization for social and beneficial objects, although the principal intention of its founders has now been happily accomplished.

A photograph of the monument is here published.



ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE UNVEILING
OF THE EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF GEN-
ERAL J. E. B. STUART AT RICHMOND,
VIRGINIA, MAY 30, 1907,

BY THEODORE S. GARNETT, HIS A. D. C.

COMRADES of the Veteran Cavalry Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, United Confederate Veterans, Fellow Citizens of Richmond, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In response to a call as inspiring as the bugles of Stuart on the field of battle, I am here to attempt the impossible task which has been assigned me by my old comrades.

Forty-three years, to this same flowery month of May, have passed away since

The cannon of his country pealed Stuart's funeral knell,

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

and that same period has elapsed since the city of Richmond registered its high resolve to place a monument here to his undying name.

To the honor of this city, and in proof of her gratitude for his sacrifice of life in her behalf, the city of Richmond, coming to the aid of the Veteran Cavalry Association of the Army of Northern Virginia, sees to-day the realization of hopes so long cherished by his faithful followers.

On the 14th day of May, 1864, at a meeting of the City Council of Richmond, General Randolph, after announcing to the Council the death of General Stuart, submitted the following resolution:

Whereas, The people of Richmond, in common with their fellow-citizens of the Confederate States, have to deplore in the death of Major General J. E. B. Stuart, not only the loss of one of the first military characters of the age, but also of a citizen whose eminent patriotism and pure life gave the best guar-

MAJOR GENERAL J. E. B. STUART
COMMANDING CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF
"NORTHERN VIRGINIA"
THIS STATUE ERECTED BY HIS COMRADES AND
THE CITY OF RICHMOND
A. D. 1917

(North Side)

BORN IN PATRICK COUNTY, VA. FEBRUARY 6,
1819

DIED IN RICHMOND, VA. MAY 12, 1864

AGED 31 YEARS

MORTALLY WOUNDED IN THE BATTLE OF YELLOW
LAVERN MAY 11, 1864

"He gave his life for his country and saved this
city from capture."

(South Side)

"Tell General Stuart to act on his own judgment
and do what he thinks best; I have implicit
confidence in him."—General T. J. (Stone-
wall) Jackson on turning over the command
of his troops to Stuart, after being wounded at
Chancellorsville May 2, 1863.

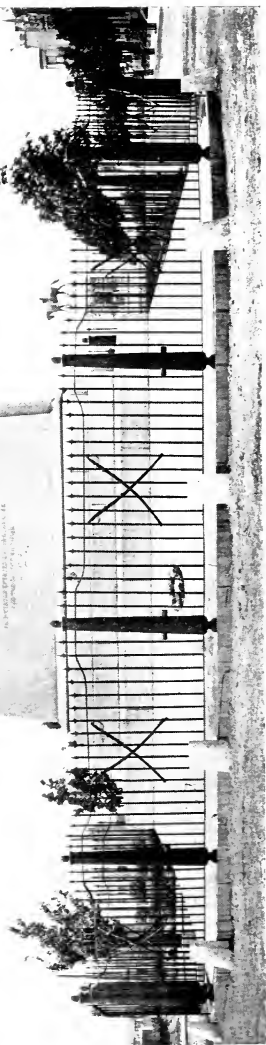
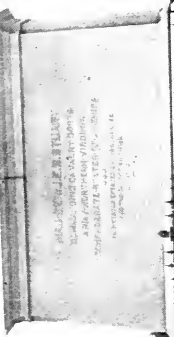
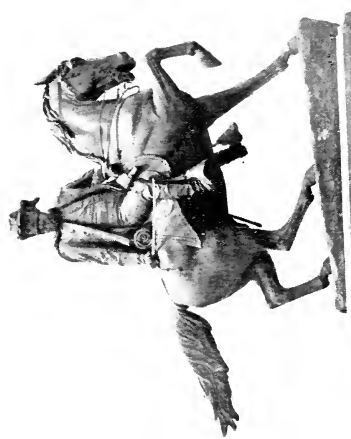
(North Side)

His grateful countrymen will mourn his loss and
cherish his memory. To his comrades in arms
he has left the proud recollection of his deeds
and the inspiring influence of his example."—
General R. E. Lee announcing the death of
General Stuart to his Army May 20, 1864.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILL.

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the purchase of the land for the proposed site of the new building for the University of Chicago. I am sorry that I cannot give you a more definite answer at this time, but the matter is being considered by the Board of Trustees, and I am sure that you will understand the necessity of their careful consideration of the subject. I am sure that you will be patient and wait for their decision. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
The President of the University of Chicago

Very truly,
The President of the University of Chicago



Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

antee that his great military capacity would never be otherwise employed than in the cause of freedom and for the welfare of his country; and

Whereas, They not only recognize this their great misfortune, in common with the rest of their countrymen, but bearing in mind that he yielded up his heroic spirit in the immediate defense of their city, and the successful effort to purchase their safety by the sacrifice of his own life, they are profoundly moved with sentiments of gratitude for his great services and of benevolent feeling for his glorious memory, and are desirous to express and to record their sense of peculiar obligation in a permanent and emphatic manner; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Council of the city of Richmond, in behalf of the citizens thereof, tender to the family of General Stuart the deepest and most heartfelt condolence, and earnestly request that the remains of their great benefactor may be permitted to rest under the eye and guardianship of the people of Richmond, and that they may be allowed to commemorate by a suitable monument their gratitude and his services.

A further resolution was adopted appointing a committee of three, Messrs. Randolph, Denton, and Hill,

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

To report a design for a suitable monument and inscription at some future meeting of the body.

War, with its relentless fury, swept onward over every foot of Virginia soil. The enemy, in ever-increasing hosts, encompassed you about and sat down over against this devoted city—the Capital of the Confederacy—and within a twelve-month the bitter fate that had been averted from you by Stuart and his troopers, swiftly and suddenly descended upon you.

The days of our years of destruction and reconstruction have been many and full of sorrow, but to-day we behold a resurrection and ascension as marvelous as it is glorious. Your city is not only rebuilt, but it has expanded beyond imagination. Where we now stand was then the open country. The triumphant march of progress has opened up this magnificent Monument Avenue, crowned as it is by the imposing statue of General

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

Lee and the memorial to President Jefferson Davis. Into this goodly company we come now to place the heroic statue of a man who,

Take him for all in all
We ne'er shall look upon his like again.

JAMES EWELL BROWN STUART was born in Patrick County, Virginia, on the 6th day of February, 1833.

He was the youngest son of Archibald Stuart and Elizabeth, his wife; and whether or not our democratic simplicity attaches any significance to his alleged descent from the royal line of Scotland's kings, we who knew this true son of Virginia make bold to declare that no prince of the blood ever did more honor to an illustrious ancestry. Strong in mind and body, educated in the three cardinal virtues of Virginia youth, he grew up to manhood a splendid specimen of the hardy young mountaineer, and fresh from the meadows and pinnacles of the Dan, he

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

took his place among the boys at West Point, and there learned the science that Teacheth the hands to war and the fingers to fight.

Noted in this famous school as the most daring and skillful horseman among all his fellows, he sought and obtained active duty as a lieutenant in the Second U. S. Cavalry, then engaged in an arduous expedition against the Indians of the Southwest.

In close encounter with this subtle enemy he received a severe wound—the only injury he ever suffered until his fatal wounding in his last battle. Soon recovering, he was sent to the plains of Kansas, where his command vainly strove to keep the peace between the warring factions of Northern and Southern settlers—the first mutterings of the storm which soon broke upon our country in the whirlwind of civil war.

In October, 1859, as aide-de-camp to Colonel Robert E. Lee at Harper's Ferry,

he bore the summons to John Brown to surrender himself and his fanatic followers to the authority of the United States and to Virginia, whose peace and dignity they had criminally violated. With grim humor old Ossawatimie Brown told the young man how easily he could have taken his life, as he felt tempted to do, when Lieutenant Stuart approached the engine-house door and demanded his surrender.

Such, in brief, was his preparation for the great career on which he entered in 1861.

To his old comrades here, and to most of those who were in other arms of the service, it is a thrice-told tale to recount his mighty deeds, his prowess in battle, his sleepless vigilance, his unerring judgment in strategy and attack, his faith in our cause, and his devotion to duty. But it is right, on this historic occasion, when his memory rises for the coronation of this hour, to take brief note of the

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

achievements of this great commander of the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Identified with that army from its first skirmish to the day of his death, he knew no other duty nor any loftier ambition than to serve

The cause of freedom and the welfare of his country.

With all his soul he loved his country. No patriot in all the tide of time ever worshiped at the pure shrine of Liberty with nobler devotion than he. As we were bringing him mortally wounded off the field at Yellow Tavern, he exclaimed with intense feeling to some who were retreating by him: "Go back, my men, go back! and do your duty as I have done mine, and our country will be free."

Bear with me, then, while I hasten through the thrilling record of his wonderful and brilliant career.

From the day when, with a small force,

he captured an entire company of the enemy's infantry near the Potomac, to the hour of that fatal charge in which he received his death-wound, there was not a moment of his life which lacked the inspiration of his high ambition or the tireless energy of his zealous soul.

Pressing forward his handful of cavalry, through byways and difficult paths, he passed from rear to front of Johnston's column on the march from the Valley to first Manassas, eager to be in at the death of McDowell's army. There, at the crucial moment, he led a mounted charge into the midst of the Federal infantry, breaking their lines and precipitating the disorder which soon became a panic and a rout more complete than any ever afterward seen on the field of battle. Of this movement General Early, in his official report, says:

Stuart did as much toward saving the battle of First Manassas as any subordinate who participated in it.

From Manassas to the Peninsula, now as a brigade commander, he served General Johnston with such indefatigable skill as to merit that great General's heartiest acknowledgment, and wrung from him, afterward, when separated, the deep lament: "How can I eat or sleep in any peace without you on the outpost!"

The crossing of sabers at Williamsburg was the beginning of the long list of cavalry battles in which Stuart's genius for war shone so conspicuously bright, and in which he taught his troopers the lessons from which the cavalry of Europe now seek their inspiration and education.

The engagements along the Chickahominy made manifest the superiority of Stuart's cavalry over McClellan's, and here, for the first time, a feat then unparalleled in war was accomplished, which it is doubtful whether any other man than Stuart would have dared to attempt. This first raid around McClel-

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

lan's army, not only made him famous as a cavalry leader, but blazed the way for that grand strategy of General Lee which brought Jackson from the Valley and overwhelmed McClellan in the Seven Days' battles.

The march of General Stuart in June, 1862, with 1200 men and two guns under Lieutenant Breathed of the Stuart Horse Artillery, making the entire circuit of McClellan's army, with the loss of one officer, the gallant Captain William Latané, of the Essex Troop, was an achievement not only unique in war, but the information thus obtained was the moving cause of the defeat of McClellan's entire campaign.

Speedily assembling his command in July of that year, when his well-won commission as major-general was conferred upon him, he hastened to the assistance of Jackson in the campaign against Pope, and again in the rear of the enemy he captured Manassas and played havoc

with the supplies and communications of Pope's army.

An English military critic has recently recorded this opinion :

Without the help which Stuart was able to give, the flank march around Pope's army by Jackson's corps and the concentration of the two Confederate wings on the battlefield of Manassas, would not have been possible.—“ Crisis of the Confederacy,” p. 392.

Then crossing the Potomac, Stuart occupied the rich pastures of Maryland and protected the cantonments of General Lee as his army rested at Frederick, recuperating its strength for the fierce encounter at Sharpsburg. Here he took position on the left of Jackson's corps and held off the masses which threatened to envelop and destroy our exposed left wing, thus rendering possible the bloody repulse inflicted upon McClellan's preponderant forces.

Returning to Virginia, he conceived and executed a second expedition around

McClellan's host, via Chambersburg and the enemy's rear, recrossing the Potomac into Virginia after inflicting great losses, capturing prisoners, horses, and transportation, and putting to flight all McClellan's dreams of conquest. So great, indeed, was the effect of this movement that President Lincoln indulged his sarcastic humor at the expense of McClellan, laughing to scorn the alleged brokendown condition of his cavalry, and placing on record the President's own testimony to the fact that Stuart's cavalry had "outmarched and outfought" its opponents, and was still ready for battle. This fact, so plain to Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Stanton, after the Chambersburg raid, caused the loss of McClellan's official head, and Burnside supplanted him.

The long march to Fredericksburg soon followed, and great credit must be awarded to Stuart for the masterly handling of his small forces in protecting the exposed flank of our army as it marched

eastward to interpose between Richmond and the heavy advancing columns of Burnside. Day after day our cavalry met the enemy's in severe and incessant combat, while the army pursued the even tenor of its way, undisturbed by the distant thunder of our guns and the shock of charging squadrons.

So was it ever with us, my comrades, and our brethren of the infantry and artillery. While the Army of Northern Virginia slept in peace, Stuart on the outpost made their rest secure. If the men composing Stuart's Cavalry Corps were not worthy of the best troops of any army, then it is vain to seek for soldiers in any part of this world.

Brother Cavalrymen! I salute you, survivors of a body of horsemen worthy of King Arthur, Richard Coeur de Leon, Godfrey de Bouillon, Prince Rupert and his Cavaliers, Cromwell and his troopers, or the greatest of all cavalrymen, Robert E. Lee!

FREDERICKSBURG

What a splendid panorama was unfolded to your steady gaze as the fog lifted above the snowy canopy of that rolling plain, disclosing in vast array the long blue lines of battle. On the right near Hamilton's crossing, Stuart attacked the enemy, and with impetuous dash he led his horse artillery, under the gallant Pelham, into the jaws of death, hammered the flank of Meade's grand division, and with two guns, far to the front, opposed a multitude of batteries, breaking their lines and aiding most materially the victory won by Jackson and his indomitable veterans.

CHANCELLORSVILLE

Chancellorsville followed with the first breath of spring, and in its wonderful story is found the climax of Stuart's glorious career.

History and Art are fond of portray-

ing the last meeting of Lee and Jackson. To those immortal names the great heart of the South instinctively adds, by common and universal consent, the name of Stuart as worthy to ride with them down the ages. In that last meeting the hand of Stuart clasped the hand of Jackson in a long farewell as Stuart moved in front to clear the way for the last great triumph and tragedy of Jackson's life. And when Lee's "right arm" was stricken helpless by that fearful accident, and Jackson lay bleeding on the fatal field, who of all that host could dare to grasp and wield the fallen chieftain's sword? Night had closed in upon the halting lines, and confusion worse confounded threatened to turn back the tide of victory. With the wounding of General A. P. Hill, and the noble self-denial of General Rodes, the command of Jackson's corps devolved upon General Stuart—the most trying responsibility that was ever forced upon any officer in any battle of the war.

“Send for General Stuart,” said Jackson, and with this last order ever uttered by him on the field of his great glory, he added the noble sentence inscribed upon this monument:

Tell General Stuart to act upon his own judgment and do what he thinks best—I have implicit confidence in him.

With that message ringing in his ears, and inspired with superhuman energy, the young cavalryman spent the dark hours of that eventful night in ceaseless activity, restoring order out of chaos; and when the day dawned every man was in his place, the lines well drawn, and with a spirit as indomitable as Jackson's own, he hurled his troops in fresh onset upon the bristling ranks of the astonished foe. Crowning Hazel Grove with massed artillery, he swept away Hooker's last refuge, joined his right wing to the advancing troops under the eye of General Lee, and burst over the plateau of Chan-

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

cellorsville with shouts of victory louder than the roar of battle.

You, his old troopers, who knew and loved him so well, need no other reason for your faith and pride in him than the fact that the names of Lee, Jackson, and Stuart are indissolubly linked together in the proud record which history has inscribed for him in the temple of fame.

A distinguished officer of the artillery of Longstreet's corps (General Alexander) has placed on record this tribute to Stuart, as true as it is generous, when he wrote:

Altogether, I do not think there was a more brilliant thing done in the war than Stuart's extricating that command from the extremely critical position in which he found it, as promptly and boldly as he did. We knew that Hooker had at least 80,000 infantry at hand. . . . The hard marching and the night fighting had thinned our ranks to less than 20,000. But Stuart never seemed to hesitate or doubt for one moment. . . . He decided to attack at daybreak, and, unlike many planned attacks that I have seen, this one came off

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

promptly on time, and it never stopped to draw its breath until it had crashed through everything, and our forces stood united around Chancellor's burning house.

And General Alexander adds:

I always thought it an injustice to Stuart and a loss to the army that he was not from that moment continued in command of Jackson's corps. He had won the right to it. I believe he had all of Jackson's genius and dash and originality. . . . Stuart possessed the rare quality of being always equal to himself at his very best.

FLEETWOOD OR BRANDY STATION

I have said that Chancellorsville was the climax of Stuart's glory. It convinced the army of Stuart's power to handle large bodies of infantry and artillery in action, under desperate circumstances and against desperate odds.

We come now to the battle of Fleetwood, as he called it, but better known by his men as Brandy Station, June 9, 1863, in which we see him as the victor

in the greatest cavalry battle of the nineteenth century.

General Pleasanton's twenty-four regiments of cavalry were supported by ten regiments of Federal infantry, while only fifteen regiments of Stuart's command were actually engaged in the battle, unsupported by any infantry whatever. Pleasanton's plan of battle was admirable. Under the gallant Gregg one division was thrown directly in rear of our line at Fleetwood Hill, while Buford with two divisions of his cavalry and one brigade of infantry assaulted our whole front at St. James' Church. By all the laws of war and chances of battle, Stuart should have been crushed and utterly destroyed. But by a rapid change of front to rear Stuart hastened to Fleetwood with regiment after regiment of Jones's and Hampton's brigades, and by a succession of most gallant and desperate charges wrested victory from the jaws of defeat and drove Gregg and Kilpatrick

from the vantage ground of Fleetwood Hill.

No more brilliant spectacle was ever witnessed than the brave Hampton leading on his gallant Carolinians, as with flashing sabers they plunged into the masses of Gregg's troopers and scattered them far and wide. Nor will the saber ever play a more glorious part in battle than did that day the shining blades of the Virginians under Harman, Elijah White, Lindsay Lomax, and Flournoy, and of the North Carolinians under Lawrence Baker, the South Carolinians under Black, the Georgians under Young, and the Mississippians under Waring. I mention these glorious names not because they excelled in valor the steady work of W. H. F. Lee's brigade and the Seventh Virginia Cavalry and others, who held back the two divisions of Buford, but because it was vouchsafed to them to show the world that the saber is, after all, the weapon for grand cavalry battle.

For partisan warfare, or Indian and cowboy skirmishes, let the pistol and carbine hold undisputed sway; but for the fields on which thousands of cavalry strive for mastery in the shock of great battle, may the sabers of Stuart, of Forrest, and of Hampton ever lead the charging squadrons to victory or death.

GETTYSBURG

The campaign of Gettysburg commenced with a series of cavalry fights in Loudoun and Fauquier. For five days Stuart was constantly engaged with Pleasanton's whole corps, who, supported by the infantry, assumed the offensive and displayed an energy and audacity which would otherwise never have been exhibited. The resulting losses were severe, and when we commenced the long march to the enemy's rear, threatening Washington City, our men and horses were already worn and jaded.

The fact that it took Stuart one day

longer than he expected to fight his way to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, arriving on the field of Gettysburg on the second day of the battle, has been used to account for the failure of the Army of Northern Virginia to keep up its unbroken score of victories.

To say that the battle would have been won if Stuart had arrived a day earlier is a tribute to him greater than his most ardent admirers could claim. General Lee believed that if Stonewall Jackson had been there the victory would have been assured. But Stuart was as blameless for his march to Carlisle as Jackson was for his absence in another and better world. The charge that Stuart's march from the Potomac to the Susquehanna was not warranted by his orders or by the best military judgment at that time, has been completely refuted by the masterly pens of Colonel John S. Mosby and Major H. B. McClellan, based on the official records.

General Lee's letters to Stuart on the 22d and 23d of June, 1863,* establish the fact that General Lee authorized Stuart to use his discretion as to crossing the Potomac by way of the enemy's rear, and General Longstreet, who communicated to him those instructions, distinctly advised General Stuart to choose that route. Two brigades of cavalry (Robertson and Jones) were left on the Blue Ridge to watch Hooker's army on the Potomac and keep General Lee advised of Hooker's movements, while Stuart with his other three brigades moved on through Maryland. A cavalry fight at Hanover took place on June 30th with Kilpatrick's division. It caused a wide detour, in the course of which we crossed the trail of Early's division. General Early heard our guns at Hanover and rightly conjectured that they were Stuart's Horse Artillery. Strangely and unhappily he failed to communicate with Stuart or

* See Appendix

leave any intimation that he was on the march for Cashtown.

Napoleon's guns at Waterloo were heard by Grouchy on the road to Wavre, and if he had crossed over to the Emperor's assistance the story of Waterloo would have been differently told. But no sound of Ewell's battle on the 1st of July at Gettysburg reached Stuart's ears as he pressed on to Carlisle, where he expected to find the right wing of General Lee's army. Therefore it happened that the cavalry attacked Carlisle, and there, near midnight, by the glare of the burning Barracks, Stuart read the dispatch announcing the victory of Ewell and Hill over the Federal forces. Instantly the attack on Carlisle was abandoned, and by a hard night march we pressed south to Gettysburg, arriving just as Ewell was beginning his assault upon Culp's Hill on the evening of the second day's battle.

It is needless to tell you of the severe

cavalry fight on July 3d between Stuart and Gregg on our extreme left—a position which we held as the battle closed, and which was of critical value if the charge of Pickett and Pettigrew had resulted as General Lee expected.

To those who know General Stuart's character as we knew it, the bare suggestion that he was capable of disobeying any order of General Lee, either in letter or in spirit, is not only incredible, but absolutely untrue. General Lee himself, in his official report, makes not the slightest intimation of such a monstrous impossibility.

Colonel Mosby, in righteous indignation, has exclaimed:

How could Stuart join Ewell on the Susquehanna, guard the gaps of the Blue Ridge in Virginia, watch and impede Hooker's crossing of the Potomac, and then place himself on the right of our column as it advanced into Pennsylvania, unless he was inspired with ubiquity? Even Hercules could not perform all of his twelve labors at the same time.

The last word has not yet been said about Gettysburg. It will be discussed long after Waterloo has been forgotten, but history will not permit the fame of Stuart to be tarnished by the false claim that he disobeyed any order ever received by him from General Lee.

His conduct in reaching the battlefield as soon as he did is as praiseworthy as his invaluable service on the retreat to the Potomac. Of this service the author of the "Crisis of the Confederacy," a trained military critic, says:

That Lee brought his forces out of this dilemma, not only without serious loss but with an air of reluctantly relinquishing the theatre, was due to the skill of his dispositions and to the admirable co-ordination of the movements of his lieutenants; but the march was only possible, thanks to the bold and skillful handling of the cavalry by Stuart, who excelled himself in these dark days of misfortune.

And the same excellent authority says:

Stuart's indefatigable horsemen could be counted on to render valuable help in delaying the enemy's

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

advance and guarding the left, which was the exposed flank, if the enemy should venture to attack. All day on July 8th, while the cavalry was fighting, the Confederate army rested after the feat of marching which had brought it from Gettysburg to the Potomac.

Bear in mind that in this retreat Stuart was suffering from the loss of many of his best officers killed, and among the severely wounded was the gallant Hampton, whose services for many days were lost to the cavalry.

Time does not permit, nor will your patience allow, even a brief outline of Stuart's further service in the last year of his life. Twice more on the field of Brandy Station he encountered the enemy's cavalry, and each time drove him back across the Rappahannock. And in the Bristoe campaign he scattered the command and well-nigh ruined the reputation of General Kilpatrick at the "Buckland races." The Mine Run campaign with its intense cold and suffering

soon followed, and after Meade's retreat from Mine Run with an army more than double that of General Lee, we settled down in winter quarters at Orange, awaiting the final struggle in northern Virginia.

The official records give no sign of the tremendous effort put forth by Stuart to overcome the disparity of force then existing and daily increasing between Stuart and Sheridan. With less than half his cavalry mounted, General Stuart moved against the twelve thousand cavalry of Sheridan, and in the Wilderness, at Todd's Tavern, and Spottsylvania Court House he neutralized the vast body of cavalry attending Grant's army.

On Monday, May 9, 1864, Sheridan with 10,000 well-mounted and equipped cavalry and several batteries of artillery, flanking our extreme right at Spottsylvania Court House, marched rapidly south to capture and destroy the city of Richmond. Promptly Stuart moved with two

brigades of Fitz Lee's division, Wickham and Lomax, leaving orders for Gordon with his North Carolina brigade to follow fast. A severe fight with Sheridan's rearguard took place that evening, and next day we pressed the rapidly moving enemy until Stuart succeeded in placing his two brigades in close contact with Sheridan's immense force, and boldly gave him battle at Yellow Tavern.

For several hours Sheridan's whole column was checked. Gordon's brigade had attacked his rear many miles distant on the Mountain road, and so was separated from Stuart in the hour of his greatest need. Toward evening, after much fighting, with nearly our whole force dismounted, Sheridan, confident in the overwhelming numbers of his mounted troops, threw his heavy regiments, squadron after squadron, in a mounted charge upon our exposed left flank and broke through our artillery with resistless force.

Capturing three of our guns, the head

of the enemy's column became engaged with our dismounted men and were suddenly checked in their advance. They had passed by General Stuart, who had emptied his pistol at them and was sitting quietly on his horse as they hastened back by him on their return. Man after man fired upon him without hitting him, until nearly the last one of them dashed past, and putting his pistol close up to his side fired the fatal bullet and hastened away. The General was taken from his horse by Captain Gus Dorsey, of Maryland, of Company K, First Virginia Cavalry, Stuart's old regiment, and then reviving a little from the shock, he was placed on the horse of Private Fred L. Pitts of that company, and led to an ambulance in the rear of the line. In this connection the names of Corporal Robert Bruce and Private Charles Wheatley are mentioned by Captain Dorsey as having rendered gallant service in removing the General to the ambulance, thus sav-

ing him from capture by the enemy. Thus safely brought off the field by the assistance of some of his staff, among them Major A.R. Venable, his gallant and devoted Inspector-General, he reached Richmond by way of Mechanicsville about eleven o'clock that night. He died here on the evening of May 12, 1864. Death never claimed a nobler victim.

Thus fell the matchless leader of the Veteran Cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia.

We come not now to mourn his loss. That has been one long lamentation throughout the years which have crowded out the recollection of his brave deeds. But we, his brothers-in-arms, partakers of his glory, assemble here in loving fellowship to commemorate his services in this enduring and fitting monument.

The sculptor, Moynihan, has shared with us the inspiration of Stuart's career, and has fashioned both horse and rider with the spirit that animated his great

soul. Idealized, it may be, to a degree that speaks eloquently of the superb horseman, the alert, active, dashing leader of brave men, it is at the same time a likeness of the man just as he was when General Sedgwick, his old commander, in rude appraisal, exclaimed: "Stuart is the best cavalry officer ever foaled in North America!"

The military student of Great Britain and the Continent is never weary of studying the campaigns of Stuart. One of them has recently written:

To Stuart belongs the credit of having brought to perfection a use of the cavalry arm which had been foreshadowed by the dragoons of Marlborough's epoch, but which had not been seen during the intervening great wars of Europe, *nor has it ever yet been successfully imitated.*

In the bold combination of *fire* and *shock* at the right moment, Stuart's cavalry stands pre-eminent among the nations of the world. What loftier tribute can

be paid to the heroes of our corps, living and dead, whose proudest boast, either in the triumphs of life or in the agonies of death, is Stuart's great name! Drilled and disciplined by him, they learned the severe lessons of outpost duty, sleepless vigilance, patient endurance and skill in battle, until they became the steady reliance of General Lee in all his campaigns—the eyes and ears of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Day after day the bravest and best were slain in battle. Innumerable skirmishes diminished our numbers as sorely as the losses of our infantry in many pitched battles, until our weary men with starving horses could scarce disguise the fact that we were fighting against hope.

The late Colonel Henderson, of the British Army, the brilliant author of "The Life of Stonewall Jackson," has left this tribute to the veteran cavalry of both armies:

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

It may, however, be unhesitatingly admitted that no cavalry of the nineteenth century, except the American, could have achieved the same results. . .

And it may be just as unhesitatingly declared that the horseman of the American war is the model of the efficient cavalryman.

THE STUART HORSE ARTILLERY.

Attached to the cavalry corps was one of the bravest and most efficient organizations that any army ever possessed. The Stuart Horse Artillery, from a single company commanded by the Gallant Pelham, grew into several battalions under Beckham, Breathed, Hart, McGregor, Chew, and Thompson, whose distinguished services are worthy of the most brilliant pages of our history. Would that time permitted me to render to the officers and men of those splendid horse-batteries the tribute they so well deserve!

The honor of firing the first gun at Fort Sumter is no longer in doubt. The

proud distinction of firing the last gun at Appomattox is claimed by many, but the command that fired the most shot and shell, first, last and all the time, is perhaps, without doubt, the ever-glorious and gallant Stuart Horse Artillery.

Welcome, also, my comrades of Mosby's Battalion! In close affiliation with Stuart, nurtured and encouraged by him, valued and praised by him beyond measure, was the Forty-third Battalion of Virginia Cavalry, under the brave, skillful, and distinguished commander, Colonel John S. Mosby. Their heroic deeds form part of the glory achieved by the army, and we link their names with the cavalry corps in loving fellowship and everlasting honor.

And now, my Comrades, our task is done. This day, so long expected, has come at last to bless our vision and rejoice our hearts. Again Stuart rides with his great Commander who himself wrote the epitaph of his Chief of Cavalry. In offi-

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

cial orders announcing his death to the army, May 20, 1864, General Lee said :

Among the gallant soldiers who have fallen in this war General Stuart was second to none in valor, in zeal, and in unflinching devotion to his country. His achievements form a conspicuous part of the history of this army, with which his name and services will be forever associated. To military capacity of a high order and to the nobler virtues of the soldier he added the brighter graces of a pure life, guided and sustained by the Christian's faith and hope. The mysterious hand of an all-wise God has removed him from the scene of his usefulness and fame.

And he added these words, carved upon this monument and graven in our hearts :

His grateful countrymen will mourn his loss and cherish his memory. To his comrades in arms he has left the proud recollection of his deeds and the inspiring influence of his example.

Once more Stuart rides with Lee, and again I see him, as on the plains of Brandy, the phantom horsemen pass him

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

in review—their survivors, on the eve of life's last battle, exclaiming now as then, "*Te morituri salutamus!*"

Some of Stuart's pupils in the art of war have grown wiser, they think, than their master, and some have made bold to write themselves down as critics after the event. General Lee once wrote that even as poor a general as he himself was could see what might have been done after the battle was over. It has been truly said that the general who never made a mistake never fought a battle.

But now, waiving all controversy and comparison, Stuart stands upon the record inscribed upon this monument. The testimony of two witnesses is true: the witnesses are Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee.

To the city of Richmond as its faithful guardian we commit this monument, in whose care and keeping it will henceforth stand, in token of a people's gratitude and in perpetual memory of his heroic name.

STUART

“ I’ve called his name, a statue stern and vast,
It rests enthroned upon the mighty past,
Fit plinth for him whose image in the mind
Looms up as that of one by God designed.
Fit plinth, in sooth! the mighty past for him,
Whose simple name is Glory’s synonym.
E’en Fancy’s self in her enchanted sleep
Can dream no future which may cease to keep
His name in guard, like sentinel, and cry
From Time’s great bastions: ‘ It shall never
die! ’ ”

APPENDIX

HEADQUARTERS, June 22, 1863.

Major-General J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding Cavalry.

GENERAL:—I have just received your note of 7:45 this morning to General Longstreet. I judge the efforts of the enemy yesterday were to arrest our progress and ascertain our whereabouts. Perhaps he is satisfied. Do you know where he is, and what he is doing? I fear he will steal a march on us, and get across the Potomac before we are aware. If you find he is moving northward and that two brigades can guard the Blue Ridge and take care of your rear, you can move with the other three into Maryland, and take position on General Ewell's right, place yourself in communication with him, guard his flank, keep him informed of the enemy's movements, and collect all the supplies you can for the use of the army. One column of General Ewell's army will probably move toward the Susquehanna by the Emmitsburg route; another by Chambersburg. . .

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

At 3:30 P. M. on the same day General Lee writes to General Ewell as follows:

I also directed General Stuart, should the enemy have so far retired from his front as to permit the departure of a portion of the cavalry, to march with three brigades across the Potomac, and place himself on your right and in communication with you, keep you advised of the movements of the enemy, and assist in collecting supplies for the army. I have not heard from him since. . . .

HEADQUARTERS, MILLWOOD,

June 22, 1863, 7 P. M.

Major-General J. E. B. STUART,

Commanding Cavalry.

GENERAL:—General Lee has enclosed to me this letter for you to be forwarded to you, provided you can be spared from my front, and provided I think that you can move across the Potomac without disclosing our plans. He speaks of your leaving by Hopewell Gap, and passing by the rear of the enemy. If you can get through by that route I think you will be less likely to indicate what our plans are, than if you should cross by passing to our rear. I forward the letter of instructions with these suggestions.

Please advise me of the condition of affairs before

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

you leave, and order General Hampton—whom I suppose you will leave here in command—to report to me at Millwood, either by letter or in person, as may be most agreeable to him.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,

Lieutenant-General.

N. B.—I think that your passage of the Potomac by our rear at the present moment will, in a measure, disclose our plans. You had better not leave us, therefore, unless you can take the proposed route in rear of the enemy.

Having sent this letter to Stuart, General Longstreet writes as follows to General Lee:

HEADQUARTERS, June 22, 1863, 7:30 P. M.
General R. E. LEE, Commanding, etc.

GENERAL:—Yours of 4 o'clock this afternoon is received. I have forwarded your letter to General Stuart, with the suggestion that he pass by the enemy's rear if he thinks that he may get through. We have nothing from the enemy to-day.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 23, 1863, 5 P M.

Major-General J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding Cavalry.

GENERAL:—Your notes of 9 and 10:30 A. M. to-day have just been received. As regards the purchase of tobacco for your men, supposing that Confederate money will not be taken, I am willing for your commissaries or quartermasters to purchase this tobacco, and let the men get it from them, but I can have nothing seized by the men.

If General Hooker's army remains inactive, you can leave two brigades to watch him, and withdraw with the three others; but should he not appear to be moving northward, I think you had better withdraw this side of the mountain to-morrow night, cross at Shepherdstown the next day, and move over to Fredericktown.

You will however be able to judge whether you can pass around their army without hindrance, doing them all the damage you can, and cross the river east of the mountains. In either case, after crossing the river, you must move on, and feel the right of Ewell's troops, collecting information, provisions, etc.

I am very respectfully and truly yours,

R. E. LEE,

General.

This correspondence shows that General Lee gave General Stuart full discretion as to where he should cross the Potomac River into Maryland—either east or west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The eastern crossing necessarily involved his going “by the enemy’s rear,” thus passing between Hooker’s army and Washington. It was impossible to pass between Hooker’s position and Harper’s Ferry. So implicit was Gen. Lee’s confidence in Stuart that he finally tells him to determine this question for himself.

When General Stuart, after passing through the gap in the Bull Run Mountains, struck the rear of Hancock’s corps and attacked it, he found that corps moving north toward Leesburg. The way to the Potomac was clearly open via Fairfax Court House, and he chose that route.

The only alternative then presented to Stuart’s mind was to retrace his steps by a long march and follow Longstreet’s corps, then moving northward through the Val-

Major-General J. E. B. Stuart

ley. This would have practically deprived the army of any aid from Stuart for several days, and left the enemy's cavalry free to attack General Lee at any point along his line of march.

The course adopted by General Stuart rendered Meade's cavalry of little use to him, two divisions of it having been sent off to look for Stuart. They found him at Hanover, Pa., on June 30, where a sharp encounter took place; but the march to Carlisle, as contemplated in his instructions from General Lee, was resumed and he reached that place on July 1, much sooner than he could have done by any other route.

Meantime, General Lee changed his mind and determined to concentrate his army near Cashtown; orders so to do were in process of execution when Heth's division advanced toward Gettysburg, and contrary to orders brought on the engagement of July 1. But for this action the whole army would have been assembled

at Cashtown—infantry, artillery and cavalry—and the battle would never have been fought at Gettysburg. Nothing would ever have been written or said of General Lee's lack of information by reason of Stuart's absence on his long march, and it is more than probable that a great battle near Cashtown would have been a complete victory for General Lee.

T. S. G.

